

REMARKS

I. Amendment to the Claims

The amendments to the claims are being made before receipt of any office action on the merits. Accordingly, please enter the following preliminary amendment for Claim Nos. 18, 21 and 25 and consider the following remarks.

The Patent Examiner has concluded that the inventions in Group Nos. I & II are related as combination and subcombination. Accordingly, the amendments to Claim Nos. 18 and 21 in Group No. II incorporate the subject matter from Claim No. 24 which is in Group No. I.

II. Provisional Election

Applicant respectfully submits that restriction requirement is no longer necessary for Claim Nos. 18-23 due to the amendments made to the claims, and provisionally elects the species the Patent Examiner has designated as Group I.

Conclusion

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided. Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



By: Dennis J.M. Donahue, III, Reg. No. 43,591
Husch & Eppenger, LLC
190 Carondelet Plaza
St. Louis, MO 63105
314-480-1642
314-480-1505 FAX